

REMARKS

Claims 23-30 are now pending in the application. Claims 23, 25, and 27 are now amended. The claim amendments are fully supported by the application as filed and do not introduce new subject matter. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Office Action indicates that the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 25, 2005 was only partially considered.

Specifically, the Office Action indicates that Korean document no. 2001/0062574 was not considered because a translation or an abstract stating the relevance of the document was not filed. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to Section III(B)(3) of the August 25, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement where Applicants indicate that KR 2001/0062574 corresponds to JP 2001/297879A (translations provided in IDS) and U.S. Pat. No. 6,566,808. Therefore, the relevance of KR 2001/0062574 can be readily determined by examining the translation of JP 2001/297879A and U.S. Pat. No. 6,566,808.

The Office Action also indicates that "communication from Korean Patent Office Re: related application" was not considered because the relevance of the document could not be ascertained. Applicants cite this reference out of an abundance of caution. Because the relevant references cited in this Korean Patent Office communication were also cited by Applicants in their IDS, Applicants believe that consideration of the Korean Patent Office communication is unnecessary.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 25 recites, in part, “an organic electroluminescent device having a plurality of material layers....” Therefore, the features of “one material layer of the plurality of material layers” in Claim 25 and “the material layers” of Claim 26 now have sufficient antecedent basis.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this Section 112 rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 23-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyashita et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2001/0001050) in view of Cao (U.S. Pat. No. 5,965,281). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 23 recites, in part, “thereby forming a film having a uniform thickness which will become components of the functional elements.”

Amended Claim 25 recites, in part, “wherein each material layer containing the surfactant has a uniform thickness and a wettability that is greater than a material layer without the surfactant.”

Amended Claim 27 recites, in part, “thereby forming the material layers having a uniform thickness.”

The Office Action acknowledges that the Miyashita et al. reference fails to disclose or alone suggest “the limitation of the liquid material further comprising a surfactant.” See 12-01-05 Office Action at 3. Therefore, the Miyashita et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest the use of a liquid material having a surfactant to form a film/material layer having a uniform thickness, as set forth in amended Claims 23, 25, and 27. Further, the Miyashita et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest a material layer containing a surfactant having a wettability that is greater than a material layer without the surfactant, as set forth in amended Claim 25.

The Cao reference appears to disclose, with reference to column 5, lines 35-37, admixtures having improved electrical properties formed by incorporating highly polarizable additives, such as surfactants, into electrically active polymers. The Cao reference fails to disclose or suggest a film/material layer containing a surfactant, the film/material layer having a uniform thickness, as set forth in amended Claims 23, 25, and 27. Further, the Cao reference fails to disclose or suggest a material layer containing a surfactant having a wettability that is greater than a material layer without the surfactant, as set forth in amended Claim 25.

Neither the Miyashita et al. reference nor the Cao reference individually disclose or suggest a film/material layer of a uniform thickness formed with or having a surfactant, as set forth in amended Claims 23, 25, and 27. Further, both the Miyashita et al. and the Cao references each fail to disclose or suggest a material layer containing a surfactant having a wettability that is greater than a material layer without the surfactant, as set forth in amended Claim 25. Therefore, combination of the Miyashita et al. and Cao references fail to render these features obvious.

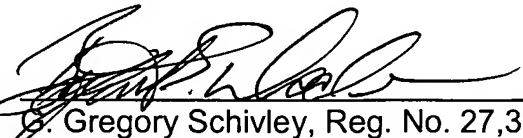
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this Section 103 rejection of independent Claims 23, 25, and 27 and those claims dependent therefrom.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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